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ADVOCATE OF PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

BOSTON, MAY, 1890.

R. B. HOWARD, EDITOR.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the American Peace Society for hearing reports, electing officers, and the transaction of other business, will be held at Pilgrim Hall, Boston, Tuesday, May 27, at 2.30 P. M. The Directors will meet at 2 P. M. Attendance should be full and prompt.

Per order of the Executive Committee.

Take elevator, No. 6 Beacon Street.

THE COMING LONDON CONGRESS.

We publish in this issue of the *ADVOCATE*, the circular letter addressed to the American Peace Society by the London Peace Societies, and also the general programme for the five days Conference, July 14-19. The American Peace Society should be represented by able men who should contribute papers that will be an honor to our country and this, its oldest society. Will any persons interested in the cause of peace, who expect to be in London at the time, kindly communicate with the Secretary? Delegates to the Universal Peace Congress will be chosen at the annual meeting.

—A member of the Society of Friends, in whose wisdom and philanthropy we have entire confidence, remarked to us (perhaps in irony) that he would prefer that the Negroes of the Congo should fall into the hands of the abstemious Arab Mohammedans than into those of the rum-selling Christians! At first blush the former fate seems preferable, but when we recollect that it means that they should be taught to fight for the Prophet and be made slaves, the cutting irony appears. Christianity means drunkenness and death to Africa. Mohammedanism means slavery and murder. Is there nothing better to offer our brother in ebony?

—On the fifteenth of last December, a new peace society, called "The Belgian Department of the International Confederation of Peace and Arbitration," held its first general meeting, under the presidency of Mr. Bull, Burgomaster of Brussels. M. Hodgson Pratt, President of the London Arbitration and Peace Association, gave his aid on the occasion.

—The growing feeling in favor of disarmament found audible expression in the Belgian Senate on the 25th ult., when M. Van Put, Senator for Antwerp, delivered a speech, in the course of which he urged the Government to propose to the Berlin Labor Conference the expediency of a general disarmament. His remarks were received with signs of assent from all parts of the House.

—The Norwegian Parliament has just decided, in a full House, by 98 votes against 24, to present an address to the King, requesting that all disputes which may hereafter arise between Norway and other countries shall be referred to Arbitration.

—The Society is greatly in need of funds that it may be adequately represented in the London Congress. Who will help?

—The Secretary will preach at the Woburn Congregational Church May 25, and address the Grand Army Posts at that place in the evening.

—The Secretary has accepted an invitation to speak before the Maine Congregational Conference at Bridgeton, Maine, Thursday morning, June 19th.

—The Peace Society of London has done nobly to give one thousand dollars to the Lombardy Union, towards the expenses of its peace work in Italy.

—We are sorry in the interest of domestic peace that the Blair Bill was defeated in the United States Senate. It appropriated \$79,000,000 to the States in proportion to the illiteracy of each. The best defence of a country is the intelligent morals of its voters. Far better to spend \$79,000,000 on common schools, than \$349,000,000 to build an enormous and showy navy to be kept from rusting and rotting by 50,000 men and an annual expenditure of \$5,000,000 in a time of profound peace with absolutely no prospects of war, especially if Arbitration Treaties are made.

—Rev. A. A. Miner, D. D., Ex-President of Tufts College, preached his forty-second anniversary sermon at the Columbus Avenue Church, Boston (Universalist), Sunday, May 4.

He has been specially active in reforms, a leader of the temperance prohibitory movement, an active and positive supporter of the doctrines and measures seeking to substitute Peace and Arbitration for war. He is an officer of the American Peace Society and was a delegate to the World's Peace Congress of 1889 at Paris. He has worked with the Massachusetts State Board of Education for twenty-one years. That he has not neglected his parish for more general work is evidenced in the 2794 marriages that he has solemnized. That he knows nothing of "dead lines" and is exceptionally vigorous in what most men concede to be old age, is shown in the five hundred pastoral calls, twenty-five baptisms, fifty-five funerals, and twenty-eight marriages of the year just closed. His pulpit shows no abatement of force and eloquence.

—Dr. Fitzgerald of Nashville, Tenn., editor of the Southern Methodist *Advocate*, recently declared in a public address at Washington, D. C., that the race problem was greatly complicated by intemperance. A drunken negro and a drunken white man will fight and the color line will be drawn and blood shed by sympathizers of both colors.

—Riding in a street car in Edinburgh late one Saturday evening, we overheard an elderly Scotchman, wearing a white "choker," commenting on the brilliant and busy gin-shops of Princess street. The speaker added that he had travelled extensively in the United States and the business was equally flourishing there. "I was in the State of Maine," he continued, "and liquor abounded and was offered to me in every form." "What city in that State did you visit?" queried our Maine friend. "*Boston!*" was the prompt reply. After he left the car we learned that he was a leading brewer who had been to America on "business."